GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4211
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
DEADLY DISEASE IN CHILDREN DUE TO TOYS
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that small children are likely to contract a disease like cancer by putting P.V.C. toys in their mouth ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has investigated the matter;

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR.ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (e): Ploy vinyl Chloride (PVCs) is used to produce plastic materials having wide applications in the building sector, packaging, electrical appliances, medical care, agriculture, the automotive industry and toys. As per a WHO study there is evidence that exposure to vinyl chloride causes cancer in humans. However, the report identifies inhalation as the main route for the occupational exposure, which occurs primarily in plants producing vinyl chloride and PVC. The same report calls for measures to minimize emissions at production sites and sanitary landfills, and to ensure low residual levels in PVC. However, there is no evidence which suggest contracting of cancer by putting PVC toys in mouth.